

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-29 (cancelled).

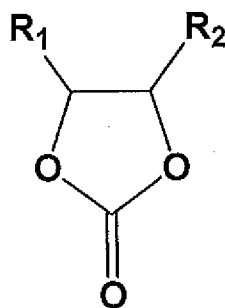
Claim 30 (currently amended). A method of forming a polyurethane-based polymer comprising the steps of:

- (a) mixing one or more ~~polymerisable organic materials having at least one~~ cyclocarbonate ~~resins group~~ with at least one natural or synthetic, modified or unmodified nano-clay having a platelet thickness of less than 25 Å and an aspect ratio higher than 10 or a nanocomposite formed from the nano-clay; and with at least one hardener to form a composition; and

(b) curing the composition to form the polyurethane-based polymer and wherein the polyurethane-based polymer is a non-isocyanate-based polyurethane polymer.

Claims 31-44 (cancelled).

Claim 45 (new). The method of claim 30 wherein the cyclocarbonate resin is a compound of formula I:



(I)

wherein R₁ and R₂ are each independently hydrogen, or a linear or branched, or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated group optionally substituted with one or more heteroatoms, oxygen-containing groups or nitrogen-containing groups.

Claim 46 (new). The method of claim 30 wherein a compound containing one or more epoxy groups is further mixed with the cyclocarbonate resin, nano-clay or nanocomposite formed from the nano-clay, and hardener to form the composition.

Claim 47 (new). The method of claim 30 wherein the nano-clay is a natural or modified bentonite, saponite, hectorite, montmorillonite or synthetic mica fluoride.

Claim 48 (new). The method of claim 30, wherein the composition is cured at room temperature.